

**Mayor's column for
The Beacon
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The State of Washington continues to refuse to maintain their property at the south entrance to downtown Edmonds and the ferry holding lanes. And the City still doesn't have enough money budgeted to maintain our own property, let alone the State's!

So Rich Lindsay, the City's park maintenance manager, called one of our local companies, Edmonds Landscaping, and asked them what they would charge to do an initial mow and cleanup of the area with a couple more mowings before fall. They responded with a quote to do the work. Rich passed the information along to me.

I called Edmonds Landscaping to offer them a proposal: I would be willing to pay for the initial mowing if they would "donate" their services to the City for the three additional mowings throughout the next few months. They had a staff meeting and decided they would be happy to do so. When I asked about the cost, they told me that they would do the work on Saturday, August 2. If I liked what they did, I could call back on Monday and they would give me the price.

I drove by on Saturday afternoon and was amazed by what I saw. The "hayfield" was gone! They did a wonderful job.

I called Monday morning to share with them my pleasure at what they accomplished and to ask what I owed them. I was pleasantly surprised to hear that they were willing to split the cost with me of the service. The bill will be arriving shortly.

I wish to publicly thank Edmonds Landscaping for their community spirit and willingness to do the work.

As for the other half of the bill, I am paying for it out of leftover campaign donations from last year's mayoral race. So for those of you who contributed money to my campaign last year, you deserve the credit, along with Edmonds Landscaping, for the mowing of the SR104 hayfield!